Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A computer implemented method of modeling information ~~using a combination of space and time relationships and hierarchical, semantic relationships~~, the method comprising:

providing at least one database comprising a plurality of data elements, each of said data elements having a mechanism to contain a representation of data in a space and time relationship;

organizing each data element such that each data element ~~may have at least one~~ comprises a plurality of frames, ~~frame,~~ each frame containing quantitative data along time and space axes, and ~~such that each data element may have at least one~~ a plurality of event segments~~, each event configured so that it may be~~ positioned along the time axis and ~~include at least one~~ including at least one hierarchical connection to ~~at least one other~~ another of the plurality of data elements; and

wherein the hierarchical connection between ~~each of the plurality of~~ two data elements is ~~made through at least one event in each of two or more of the plurality of data elements with a link, the link~~ defined by a link model, ~~each~~ wherein the link model ~~categorizing~~ categorizes data and ~~indicating~~ indicates the purpose of the hierarchical connection ~~associated link~~.

2 – 35. (cancelled)

36. (new) A computer implemented data model for organizing a plurality of data elements, comprising:

a data storage area comprising a plurality of data elements, wherein each data element comprises a plurality of frames having quantitative data relating to the data element and a plurality of event segments, each event segment defined by a start date and an end date; and

wherein an event segment comprises a link configured to associate a data element with a corresponding data element, wherein the correspondence is defined by a link model.

37. (new) The computer implemented data model of claim 36, wherein a first data element comprises a first event segment defined by a first start date a first end date, the first event segment further having a first link identifying a discrete incident that occurred between the first start date and the first end date and correlating the first data element to a second data element, wherein the second data element represents the discrete incident.

38. (new) The computer implemented data model of claim 36, wherein an event segment includes a start range and an end range, wherein the start range indicates a degree of error associated with the start date and the end range indicates the degree of error associated with the end date

39. (new) The computer implemented data model of claim 36, wherein a frame is defined by time and space coordinates and includes a frame range that indicates the degree of error associated with the time and space coordinates.

40. (new) The computer implemented data model of claim 36, wherein two discrete databases conforming to the data model are merged by a link between a data element in a first discrete database and a data element in a second discrete database.

41. (new) The computer implemented data model of claim 40, wherein the merged database is organized according to time and space coordinates for frames, start and end dates for event segments, and link models for links.